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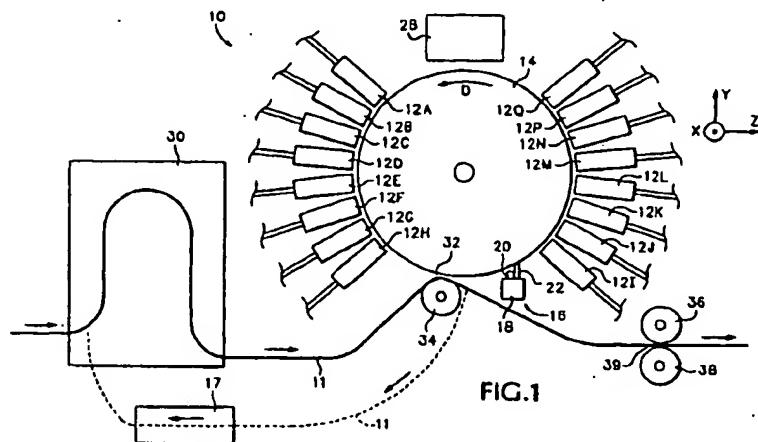
(54) Apparatus and method for image fusing

(57) A method of offset printing in an ink jet printer (10), the method comprising the steps of:

- forming an ink image on a preliminary receiving surface (9);
- passing a final receiving substrate (11) through a first nip (32) where it comes into contact with the preliminary receiving surface (9);
- exerting a first pressure on the final receiving

substrate (11) in the first nip (32) to transfer the ink image from the preliminary receiving surface (9) to the final receiving substrate (11);

- passing the final receiving substrate (11) through a second nip (39); and
- exerting a second pressure on the final receiving substrate (11) in the second nip (39) to fuse the ink image into the final receiving substrate (11).





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 30 1400

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.)
X	EP 0 606 490 A (SEIKO EPSON CORP) 20 July 1994 (1994-07-20) * page 5, line 24 - page 6, line 13 * * page 6, line 50 - page 7, line 49 * * page 9, line 40 - page 10, line 20 * * figures 2,4-6 *	1,15	B41J2/01 B41J2/005
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A	EP 0 635 369 A (TEKTRONIX INC) 25 January 1995 (1995-01-25) * column 5, line 5 - column 6, line 31 * * column 8, line 19 - line 42 * * column 9, line 3 - line 31 * * column 11, line 51 - column 12, line 7 * * column 16, line 46 - column 17, line 43; figures 1-3 *	1,3,5,7, 9,15,17	
A	EP 0 496 337 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD) 29 July 1992 (1992-07-29) * column 6, line 18 - column 7, line 20 * * column 9, line 41 - column 10, line 47 * * column 11, line 14 - line 57; figures 1,5 *	1,3-5,7, 8,15,19, 20	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.) B41J
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	20 December 1999	Papastefanou, E	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document in the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 99 30 1400

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